



**REV. BIJU YOHANNAN**



## **Asst. Vicar's Message to the Parish**

**Dear Parishioners,**

**Greetings to you all in the name of  
our Triune God!**

June brings the joy of summer as schools and colleges close for vacation. Children and families look forward to rest, travel, and new experiences. It is also a wonderful season to grow spiritually, strengthen relationships, and spend meaningful time with God. May this month refresh our hearts and renew our faith and purpose

## **June 7 - Sunday - Jesus: The ultimate influencer - John 8:12-20**

Jesus is the ultimate influencer because He does not just attract followers—He transforms lives. In John 8:12-20, Jesus declared, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” Unlike worldly influencers who seek fame, Jesus leads people into truth, hope, and eternal life. His light exposes sin, guides our path, and gives purpose to those who trust Him. Even when questioned and opposed by the Pharisees, Jesus stood firm in His identity and mission. Today, Jesus still influences hearts through His love, wisdom, and example. When we follow His light, we become reflections of His goodness to a dark world.

## **June 14 - Sunday - Environment Sunday: Creation speaks of God - Luke 12:24-27**

Environment Sunday reminds us that creation speaks clearly about God’s love, wisdom, and care. In Luke 12:24-27, Jesus points to the ravens and lilies as examples of God’s provision and beauty. The birds do not store food, yet God feeds them. The flowers do not labor for clothing, yet they are beautifully dressed. Through nature, God teaches us to trust Him and value His creation. As caretakers of the earth, we are called to protect the environment, avoid waste, and use natural resources responsibly. Caring for creation is an act of gratitude and obedience to God. When we respect the world around us, we honor the Creator who made all things beautiful and good for humanity.

**June 21- Sunday - Worship: In God's presence, for God's purpose -  
Mark 12:28-34**

Worship is more than singing or attending church; it is living in God's presence and fulfilling His purpose for our lives. In Mark 12:28-34, Jesus teaches that the greatest commandment is to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

True worship begins with a sincere relationship with God and flows into how we treat others daily. When we spend time in God's presence through prayer, obedience, and praise, our hearts are transformed to reflect His love and compassion. Worship draws us closer to God and aligns us with His purpose. As believers, we are called to honor Him not only with words, but also through faithful service, kindness, and love.

t His love in the world.

**June 28 - Sunday - De-Addiction Day - Break the chain: Finding  
freedom from addictions - Mark 5:1-20**

De-Addiction Day reminds us that no chain is too strong for Jesus to break. In Mark 5:1-20, Jesus delivered a man who was bound, isolated, and controlled by destructive forces. Others had tried to restrain him, but true freedom came only through an encounter with Christ.

Addiction can imprison people through harmful habits, substances, or unhealthy behaviors, affecting lives, families, and communities. Jesus offers healing, restoration, and hope to all who seek Him. Freedom begins by admitting the struggle, trusting God's power, and accepting support from caring people. Like the healed man, we are called to leave behind bondage and live transformed lives. Through faith, prayer, discipline, and encouragement, God can break every chain and lead us into lasting freedom and peace.

May the Almighty's blessings be with you in all flavors of life.

*In His Service,*

***Rev. Biju Yohannan***

***The Assistant Vicar of Chicago Mar Thoma Church***

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